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Resolution 1966-12-23 Providing Continued Financial Support for the Conservation Library Center

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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vation Commissioners urges that the classification of the public domain proceed expeditiously and that proper consideration be given to wildlife and recreational values in the classification of said lands, and that the public and all appropriate State, County and Federal agencies be encouraged to support and aid in the classification procedure; and,

Be it further resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests the Bureau of Land Management to proceed expeditiously in the program implemented by the Classification and Multiple Use Act.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL WATER PROJECT RECREATION ACT

Whereas, the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, Public Law 89-72, contains different cost-sharing requirements for separable costs than it does for joint costs allocated to fish and wildlife enhancement; and,

Whereas, separable costs are those costs of a multiple purpose project which would not be incurred if a particular purpose were omitted such as costs of additional height on a dam to provide a conservation pool for fish; and,

Whereas, under Public Law 89-72, non-Federal interests must agree to pay one-half of the separable costs if fish and wildlife are to be enhanced and must pay for the operation, maintenance and replacement of facilities associated with this enhancement; and,

Whereas, many projects which are scheduled for construction will place heavy additional financial burdens upon State Fish and Game Agencies by added operation and maintenance costs required for fish hatcheries and wildlife habitat developments; and,

Whereas, budgetary limitations of these agencies would preclude participation in cost-sharing of 50 percent of the separable costs and full payment of operation, maintenance and replacement of enhancement facilities; and,

Whereas, if the State Fish and Game Agencies do not agree to participate in cost sharing of separable costs, the fish and wildlife enhancement portion of the project will be deleted, preventing future development of this resource as additional monies may become available to the agencies;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners requests the Congress of the United States to clarify or amend Public Law 89-72 so as to delete the cost-sharing requirements for separable costs, except as they relate to major additions and expansions which go beyond the acreages and facilities normally needed for wildlife and recreational purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

REAFFIRMING STATES' JURISDICTION OVER FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Whereas, since colonial times, in this country, the ownership of wildlife, by law, history and tradition, has been separated from the ownership of the land, in contrast to the European system in which the landowner owns the game thereon; and,

Whereas, it has been held by the U. S. Supreme Court that all species of wildlife are held in trust by the individual states for the people of each state, the principal exception to this rule arising under the treaty-making power of the United States which makes the migratory bird treaties and Federal legislation dealing with migratory birds pursuant to and limited by said treaties the supreme law of the land; and,

Whereas, contrary to Supreme Court decisions and dictates of sound unified fish and game management policies, the United States Solicitor General recently has held that the Federal Government has full and exclusive power and control over both migratory and resident wildlife on all federally-owned land; and,

Whereas, the Western Conference of Governors gave favorable recognition to the states' position as above stated;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners reaffirms the basic right of the states to conserve, manage and regulate the use and harvest of fish and resident species of wildlife on all lands, including those lands owned by the Federal Government, within each individual state on which said jurisdiction has not been relinquished to the Federal Government. Provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall imply that this Association endorses any provision of any Federal statute or regulation which prohibits the management and regulation of public hunting of resident wildlife species and of public fishing by the various states.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

PROVIDING CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CONSERVATION LIBRARY CENTER

Whereas, the Conservation Library Center established September 20, 1960, by the Library Commission of the City and County of Denver at the Denver Public Library has received continuing support of the entire International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners as evidenced by the passage of several resolutions in this regard, and following action by its Executive Board; and,

Whereas, this report by the Association has led to a contract between the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the Interior Library, and the Denver Public Library whereby it has been possible to initiate, through the use of administrative funds provided by the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts, the analysis and indexing of published and unpublished reports emanating from these Acts; and,

Whereas, effective use of such funds under the direction of Mr. John T. Eastlick, Librarian for the Denver Public Library, and Mr. Arthur H. Carhart, appointed Consultant to the Conservation Library Center, has resulted in the development of a well designed program which will result in the cataloging and indexing of all unpublished reports arising from the work under Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Programs and the assembling, cataloging and indexing of many additional reports, books and materials relating to and of considerable value in Game and Fish Conservation work; and,

Whereas, the continuation of this important program is dependent upon continued financial support;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that a letter be sent by the Association to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife expressing appreciation for past support and asking for renewal of the Annual Contract to ensure continued funding so that work by the Conservation Library Center can be effectively continued.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

OPPOSING AN INCREASE IN THE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP FEE

Whereas, legislation providing authority to the Secretary of the Interior to increase the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp fee from its present \$3 up to \$5 is being considered by the Congress; and,

Whereas, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners favors an increase in the rate of acquisition and development of waterfowl habitat, but not this method; and,

Whereas, the current \$3 fee for Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps is equal to or greater than the fees charged by many states for small game hunting licenses; and,

Whereas, hunter license fees have historically been the primary source of revenue for the support of state programs designed to manage all species of small game; and,

Whereas, any increase in federal fees required of hunters could seriously jeopardize the use of this source of funds to support state conservation programs;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners is opposed to any increase in federal hunting fees; and,

Be it further resolved that the Congress be urged to appropriate funds from general revenue to increase the rate of acquisition and development of waterfowl habitat in order to maintain the waterfowl heritage of this Nation which to date has been maintained solely by only those who enjoy the recreation of waterfowling—only one of the many benefits of this wildlife resource.

RESOLUTION NO. 14

ADMINISTRATION OF LIVESTOCK GRAZING ON CORPS OF ENGINEERS LANDS

Whereas, the Corps of Engineers designates many acres of reservoir perimeter lands under its control for fish and wildlife in the public interest; and,

Whereas, these lands are granted under license to state wildlife agencies for management; and,

Whereas, controlled livestock grazing can be an important habitat management tool, and the Corps of Engineers' current rules provide that state wildlife agencies can make recommendations regarding livestock grazing, although the Corps retains administration of the grazing contracts and collects the grazing fees; and,

Whereas, such administration results in conflict between livestock and wildlife use of these lands to the detriment of wildlife;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that state wildlife agencies should administer grazing contracts and collect fees therefor under provisions of the license granted by the Corps of Engineers; and,

Be it further resolved that money collected from grazing be used exclusively for development of hunting, fishing and other recreational benefits on the Corps of Engineers' lands.

RESOLUTION NO. 15

REGULATION OF ANGLING ON FEDERAL REFUGES

Whereas, the management of fish and resident wildlife is the responsibility of the states; and,

Whereas, the Department of the Interior through the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is promulgating sport fishing regulations on Federal game refuges through the Federal Register; and,

Whereas, the traditional principle that fish and wildlife are public properties not attached to ownership of land is violated by virtues of this practice; and,

Whereas, Section 10 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, which is the organic law establishing the Fish and Wildlife Service, specifically states that the authority of the states to manage the fish and game is not to be affected;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that the Department of Interior through the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service should adhere to language and intent of Section 10, and to fully respect the rights of the several states to manage the public use of fisheries resources.

RESOLUTION NO. 16

DEVELOPMENT OF WATERFOWL PRODUCTION HABITAT

Whereas, waterfowl production habitat is in short supply and is continuing to be lost as the population expands and resources development and use intensifies; and,

Whereas, the U. S. Forest Service has provided an imaginative plan for improving public-owned wetlands in the Chippewa National Forest (Minnesota); and,

Whereas, the wetland development procedures for the Chippewa Forest constitute a model plan that can be applied to any suitable private, local, state or federal government land; and,

Whereas, restored wetlands could substitute for waterfowl habitat being converted to other uses;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners: